

Message Text

UNCLASSIFIED

PAGE 01 BRASIL 10986 271203Z

14

ACTION ARA-10

INFO OCT-01 AF-06 EUR-12 ISO-00 IO-10 CIAE-00 DODE-00

PM-04 H-02 INR-07 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-02 PRS-01

SP-02 SS-15 USIA-15 DHA-02 SAM-01 SAJ-01 /099 W

----- 040450

R 241900Z DEC 75

FM AMEMBASSY BRASILIA

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 3117

INFO AMEMBASSY ADDIS ABABA

AMEMBASSY KINSHASA

AMEMBASSY LISBON

AMEMBASSY MOSCOW

AMEMBASSY PRETORIA

AMCONSUL LOURENCO MARQUES

AMCONSUL RIO DE JANEIRO

AMCONSUL SAO PAULO

USUN NEW YORK 456

UNCLAS BRASILIA 10986

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: PFOR, PINT, BR, AO

SUBJECT: ANGOLA: PRESIDENTIAL RECALL OF SPECIAL ENVOY DENIED BY
FOREIGN MINISTRY

REF: BRASILIA 10907

BEGIN SUMMARY:FOREIGN MINISTRY HAS FORMALLY DENIED ESTADO DE
SAO PAULO REPORT THAT PRESIDENT GEISEL DISPLEASED
OVER HANDLING OF ANGOLA POLICY AND HAS PERSONALLY ORDERED
RECALL OF BRAZILIAN CHARGE THERE. FOREIGN MINISTRY STATES
CHARGE ANDRADE MELO RETURNING TEMPORARILY FOR PURELY ADMINISTRATIVE
REASONS. PRESS ALSO QUOTES FOREIGN MINISTER SILVEIRA AS
DENYING THAT BRAZIL LEANING TOWARD CHANGE IN ITS ANGOLA POLICY,
BUT MOST COVERAGE CONSIDERED WITHDRWAL DIPLOMATICALLY SIGNIFICANT.
END SUMMARY.

UNCLASSIFIED

UNCLASSIFIED

PAGE 02 BRASIL 10986 271203Z

1.IN STORY INITIALLED BY ITS BRASILIA BUREAU CHIEF, O ESTADO

DE SAO PAULO DECEMBER 23 REPORTED THAT PRESIDENT GEISEL HAD ORDERED FOREIGN MINISTER SILVEIRA TO REMOVE BRAZL'S SPECIAL REPRESENTATIVE IN LUANDA, OVIDIO DE ANDRADE MELO. ACCORDING TO STORY, GEISEL HAD REQUESTED MELO'S REPORTING, GONE OVER IT CAREFULLY, AND WAS "DISPLEASED" WITH THE WAY IT HAD "INDUCED THE GOVERNMENT TO SUPPORT AGOSTINHO NETO." STORY SAID GOB SUPPORT OF MPLA COULD BE "REVIEWED, ESPECIALLY BECAUSE OF RUSSIAN INTERFERENCE," BUT THAT NO DECISION HAD YET BEEN MADE, AND ALSO SAID SILVEIRA'S SITUATION IS "OBVIOUSLY NOT GOOD." ESTADO ACCOUNT ALSO RELATED PAPER HAD TALKED WITH MELO IN LUANDA BY PHONE, AND HE SAID HE WAS GOING TO BRAZIL ON VACATION.

2. FOLLOWING DAY VARIOUS PAPERS REPORTED FOREIGN MINISTRY HAD AT FIRST REFUSED COMMENT, AND FINALLY ISSUED FOLLOWING STATEMENT: "ITAMARATY (FOREIGN MINISTRY) DECLARES THAT, RESPONDING TO REASONS OF A PURELY ADMINISTRATIVE NATURE, MINISTER OVIDIO DE ANDRADE MELO IS BEING CALLED TO BRASILIA. MINISTER OVIDIO DE ANDRADE MELO, CURRENT CHARGE D'AFFAIRES IN LUANDA, WHO HAS BEEN CARRYING OUT HIS FUNCTIONS WITH COMPETENCE AND DEDICATION, NEEDS URGENT MEDICAL CARE, AND FOR THAT REASON ONLY, WILL BE REPLACED TEMPORARILY BY FIRST SECRETARY AFFONSO CELSO DE OURO PRETO."

3. JORNAL DE BRASILIA DECLARED "BRAZIL DID NOT ACCEPT THE INSISTENT PRESSURES OF THE US TO WITHDRAW FROM ITS PRIVILEGED DIPLOMATIC POSITION IN ANGOLA," CITED "AUTHORIZED GOVERNMENT SOURCE" AS DENYING GEISEL INTERVENED IN MELO'S REPLACEMENT, AND REPORTED MELO IS "GRAVELY ILL." CORREIO BRAZILIENSE REPORTED MORE CAUTIOUSLY THAT ESTADO STORY WAS RECEIVED WITH "UNDISGUISSABLE NERVOUSNESS" IN ITAMARATY. JORNAL DO BRASIL SAID MINISTRY LIVED "ONE OF ITS MOST NERVOUS DAYS IN RECENT YEARS," NOTED MELO'S REPLACEMENT CAME AT TIME OF SIGNS OF RE-EXAMINATION OF GOB POSITION, AND CALLED IT "IMPROBABLE" THAT MELO WOULD RETURN TO LUANDA. IN SIGNED COLUMN, JORNAL'S ITAMARATY CORRESPONDENT DECLARED, "EARLIER THAN COULD BE EXPECTED, ITAMARATY IS BEING FORCED TO REVIEW ITS POSITION REGARDING ANGOLA, AND WHATEVER THE EXPLANATION OFFERED FOR THE SUDDEN WITHDRAWAL OF THE BRAZILIAN SPECIAL REPRESENTATIVE IN LUANDA--REPLACED BY A UNCLASSIFIED

UNCLASSIFIED

PAGE 03 BRASIL 10986 271203Z

LOWER-RANKING DIPLOMAT--THE DECISION OF THE GOVERNMENT TO MINIMIZE THE RELATIONSHIP WITH THE MPLA GOVERNMENT, OF MARXIST TENDENCY, HAS NOW BECOME CLEAR." THE COLUMN CONCLUDED, "NOW, INEVITABLY, THERE WILL FOLLOW A PROCESS OF COOLING OF RELATIONS. THE MPLA WILL KNOW HOW TO RECOGNIZE IN THE WITHDRAWAL OF MINISTER OVIDIO MELO THE SIGNAL THAT THE BRAZILIAN GOVERNMENT PREFERS TO WAIT TO SEE WHAT THE INTENSITY AND REACH OF COMMUNIST INFLUENCE OVER ANGOLO

WILL BE." FOLHA DE SAO PAULO QUOTED SILVEIRA AS
REAFFIRMING OFFICIAL DENIAL AND AS ALSO DENYING THAT GOB
INCLINED TO MODIFY ITS POSITION.

4. ESTADO STORY ON ITAMARATY DENIAL CITED OBSERVERS
AS NOTING THAT DENIAL CONFIRMED BASIC FACTS OF PAPER'S
ORIGINAL STORY: MELO IS LEAVING LUANDA; HE IS BEING
REPLACED BY OURO PRETO; AND THE REPLACEMENT MEANS A LOWERING
OF THE LEVEL OF REPRESENTATION. CONTINUED ESTADO, "THE FACTS
THUS, ACCORDING TO THE SAXE OBSERVERS, ARE CONFIRMED. THE
REST CAN BE NO MORE THAN EXPLANATIONS TO SAVE APPEARANCES."

5. ESTADO SAME DAY BEGAN LEAD EDITORIAL, "DESPITE THE CAUTIOUS
DENIAL OF ITAMARATY, IT CANNOT FAIL TO BE RECOGNIZED THAT
THE CALLING TO BRASILIA" OF MELO "CAN ONLY BE UNDERSTOOD AND
ANALYZED IN THE PARADOXICAL CONTEXT IN WHICH ITAMARATY HAS
PLACED OUR FOREIGN POLICY." EDITORIAL GOES ON TO REVIEW IN
HARSH TERMS GOB VOTE AGAINST ZIONISM, SPLIT BETWEEN ITAMARARY
AND MILITARY (REFTEL), AND PREVIOUS MINISTRY STATEMENTS ON
ANGOLA, AND CONCLUDES THAT IT REMAINS TO BE SEEN IF "THE
NEW POLICY OF ITAMARATY WILL GO ON BEING CONFUSED WITH THE
POSITION OF BRAZIL."
CRIMMINS

UNCLASSIFIED

NNN

Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01 JAN 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: PRESS COMMENTS, PERSONAL REPRESENTATIVE, POLICIES, ALLEGATIONS, DIPLOMATIC PERSONNEL RECALL
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 24 DEC 1975
Decaption Date: 01 JAN 1960
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: n/a
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Authority: n/a
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment:
Disposition Date: 01 JAN 1960
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1975BRASIL10986
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: N/A
Errors: N/A
Film Number: D750448-0352
From: BRASILIA
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1975/newtext/t19751212/aaaaakng.tel
Line Count: 138
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM
Office: ACTION ARA
Original Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 3
Previous Channel Indicators: n/a
Previous Classification: n/a
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: 76 BRASILIA 10907
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Authority: ElyME
Review Comment: n/a
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 23 JUN 2003
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review History: RELEASED <23 JUN 2003 by ReddocGW>; APPROVED <02 FEB 2004 by ElyME>
Review Markings:

Margaret P. Grafeld
Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
06 JUL 2006

Review Media Identifier:
Review Referrals: n/a
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: ANGOLA: PRESIDENTIAL RECALL OF SPECIAL ENVOY DENIED BY FOREIGN MINISTRY
TAGS: PFOR, PINT, BR, AO, (MELO, ANDRADE)
To: STATE
Type: TE
Markings: Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 06 JUL 2006